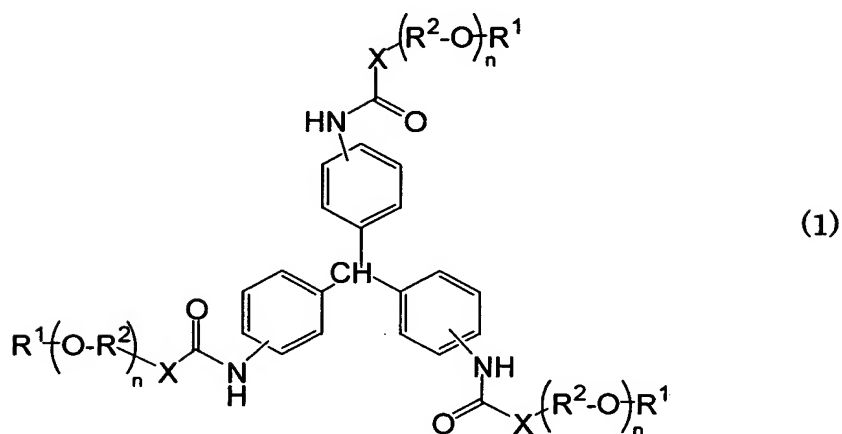


CLAIMS

1. A triphenylmethane derivative represented by the general formula (1):

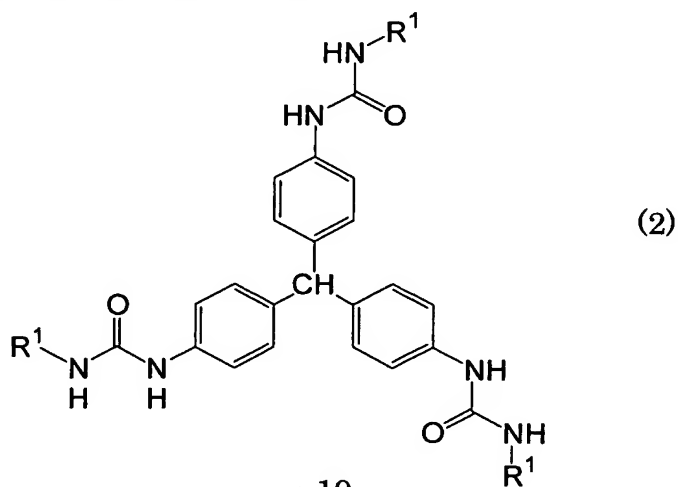


wherein R^1 is a linear or branched alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms; R^2 is a linear or branched alkylene group having 2 to 10 carbon atoms; X is NH, NR^1 , O or a single bond; n is an integer of 0 to 10; and a plurality of the R^1 groups, the R^2 groups, the X groups and the integers n may be respectively identical to or different from each other.

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2. The triphenylmethane derivative according to claim 1, wherein the integer n in the general formula (1) is 0 or 1.

3. The triphenylmethane derivative according to claim 2 which is represented by the general formula (2):



wherein R¹ has the same meaning as defined in the general formula (1).

4. The triphenylmethane derivative according to claim 3, wherein R¹ is a linear or branched alkyl group having 1 to 5 carbon atoms.

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5. The triphenylmethane derivative according to claim 3, wherein R¹ is a linear or branched alkyl group having 6 to 10 carbon atoms.

6. The triphenylmethane derivative according to claim 3, wherein R¹ is a linear or branched alkyl group having 11 to 20 carbon atoms.

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7. An organic gelling agent comprising the triphenylmethane derivative as defined in any one of claims 1 to 6.

8. An organic gel comprising the organic gelling agent as defined in claim 7, and an organic solvent.

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9. An organic fiber comprising the organic gel as defined in claim 8, and having a diameter of 500 nm or less.

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